



South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



NATIONAL GUARD TO HOST 28TH ANNUAL GOLDEN COYOTE EXERCISE

The South Dakota National Guard will be hosting its 28th annual Golden Coyote training exercise in the southern Black Hills June 9 – 23, providing relevant training opportunities in support of overseas contingency operations and homeland defense.

Created in the mid 1980's by the South Dakota National Guard, with the cooperation of the National Forest Service and Custer State Park, this year's Golden Coyote training exercise will allow more than 2,200 service members to conduct combat support and combat service support missions in a realistic training environment and provide valuable services to the public.

Local residents receive numerous benefits of the many engineering projects being conducted during the training exercise. Engineering units transport timber cut in remote areas to those who can use it as firewood, identify hazardous wilderness areas and make them safe for public use, and re-surface local roadways that have fallen into disrepair.

There will be 37 units representing 17 states and six foreign nations participating in the exercise and from multiple branches of military service – Army, Navy, and Air Force – working together to create an invaluable training experience. Participating units train on their equipment and employ tactics to complete various projects that help improve the forest and infrastructure of many local communities.

In addition, individual units in the task force are able to participate in numerous warrior training tasks and battle drills, such as urban combat operations, land navigation, first aid, casualty evacuation, and day and night convoy operations. This provides a valuable opportunity for units to train on skills needed for any future overseas deployment.

Missions for the 2012 Golden Coyote training exercise are conducted throughout the Black Hills and the surrounding area, both in local urban areas and remote wilderness sites.



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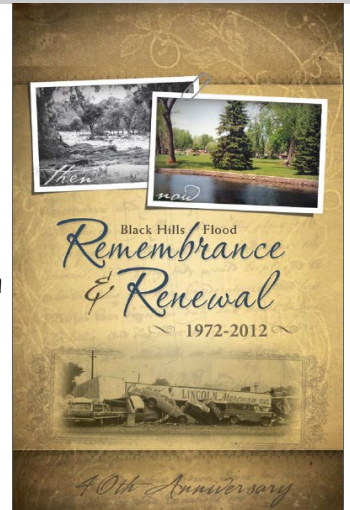
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40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1972 FLOOD EVENTS

On the night of June 9, 1972, a sudden and intense rain storm wreaked havoc in the Black Hills. The region will mark the fortieth anniversary of the flood this weekend and honor the 238 people known to have died.

FRIDAY – JUNE 8

- 9 am - 6 pm—"Mega Flood - The 1972 Awakening" exhibit at the Journey Museum (222 New York Street)
- 9 am—Exhibits of personal flood memorabilia open at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center (444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road)
- 9 am—Rapid City Public Library recording remembrances of the 1972 flood (610 Quincy Street)
- 10 am—Walking tours along the Rapid City Greenway from Journey Museum to Memorial Park
- 10 am - 6 pm—"Remembrance and Renewal" exhibit at the Dahl Arts Center (713 7th Street)
- 7 pm—Presentation of "Remembering the 1972 Flood: A Panel of Experts"



SATURDAY – JUNE 9

Flood path tours are available all day through Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau

- 9 am - 11 am—Memory walk along Canyon Lake and Sioux Park
- 9 am - 6 pm—"Mega Flood - The 1972 Awakening" exhibit at the Journey Museum (222 New York Street)
- 9 am—Exhibits of personal flood memorabilia open at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center (444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road)
- 9 am—Rapid City Public Library recording remembrances of the 1972 flood (610 Quincy Street)
- 10 am – 2:00 pm—Walking tours along the Rapid City Greenway from The Journey Museum to Memorial Park
- 10 am - 6 pm—"Remembrance and Renewal" exhibit at the Dahl Arts Center (713 7th Street)
- 12 pm - 1 pm—Memorial Bike Ride from the Rapid City Greenway
- 12 noon—Memorial Service and Dedication at Winter Street Park
- 1 pm - 3 pm—Memorial Run at the Rapid City Greenway—Native American drumming and the 1972 Black Hills Flood video presentations at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center (444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road)
- 6:30 pm—Black Hills Flood Remembrance & Renewal Program at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Fine Arts Auditorium (444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road) - Doors open at 5:30 pm

SUNDAY – JUNE 10

- 1 pm—Community-Wide 1972 Flood Memorial Service at the Civic Center (444 N. Mt. Rushmore Road)

Websites with more detailed information about the flood and the commemoration:

http://www2.rapidcityjournal.com/shared-content/story_tools/presentation/?id=6

<http://www.keloland.com/custompages/rapidcityflood40years/after/>

<http://www.rcgov.org/>

http://rapidcitylibrary.org/lib_info/1972Flood/index.asp

NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AMONG THOSE TO BE REMEMBERED

On June 3, 1972, nearly 2,000 South Dakota Army National Guard soldiers gathered in the Hills for their annual training. Extremely heavy rains which began in the late afternoon of June 9, 1972, caused the Lawrence County Sheriff to notify Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Corning, of the possible need of National Guard support if flooding in the Northern Hills continued.

Their first calls were from the Highway Patrol and Pennington County Sheriff's Department to blockade Nemo Road, and assistance in the rescue of a vehicle washed off the road near Cleghorn Canyon. Most Guardsmen on Camp Rapid were reporting for duty, however, more manpower was needed and the call went out over radio and television for all Guardsmen at annual training to report to Camp Rapid. Only 655 Guardsmen were in annual training at Camp Rapid. 1,015 artillerymen and support troops were in the Badlands some fifty miles east of Rapid City and 237 engineer troops were at Roubaix Lake west of Rapid City in the Black Hills. No confirmed figures are available of just how many reported in that fateful night. It was impossible to keep unit integrity as calls for assistance were answered as rapidly as men reported in. Rescue units were made up of engineers, artillerymen, transportation, maintenance, medics, aviators, and state headquarters personnel. Getting the job done was paramount. Capt. Bob Mallow, with a crew of five other soldiers from the 235th Supply Company and six men from the 740th Transportation Company were dispatched at about 9:30 p.m. on Friday to close Nemo Road at the request of the Pennington County Sheriff.

This group was flagged down by a woman saying her three children were trapped on the other side of the creek. About that time a pickup truck coming down the road reported seeing a car going into the creek. The driver thought there were people in the car because the dome light had come on. The crew found the car and 2nd Gary Englestad, Pfc. Freeman Phillips, Lt. John Parke and PFC Gary Reinhold secured themselves with ropes and went into the creek. They found the car was empty. On their return the water rose and the current got stronger, forcing the four men into a tree. In the next 20 minutes the water climbed between 15 and 20 feet. It was during the rescue missions in that area that two South Dakota National Guard Soldiers, 2nd Lt. Gary Englestad and Pfc. Freeman Phillips lost their lives on Box Elder Creek. Mallow and the remainder of the Soldiers were isolated and could not get back to Camp Rapid until the next morning.

1st Sgt. Myron Corbin of Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, Webster, S.D., was known to be in downtown Rapid City when the floodwaters struck and how Corbin became a victim has never been determined. Many other National Guard individuals and teams performed rescue missions throughout Rapid City and the Black Hills area. They did yeoman work and the number of lives they saved can only be told by those whose lives they did save.

A complete listing of those that will be honored during the memorial can be found on pages 5-7 at the following link: http://www.rcgov.org/pdfs/Mayors-Office/RapidCitySDCOC_3676_Remembrance%20&%20Renewal.pdf

South Dakota National Guard soldiers worked bravely to rescue suffering flood victims. Each went far beyond the expectations of their normal duties. We salute their magnificent service to the citizens of South Dakota.



HISTORIC LANDMARK PLAQUE PRESENTED TO VABHHCS

Over 120 people were in attendance at the Hot Springs VA Medical Center on Wednesday, May 30th to celebrate the formal presentation of the plaque designating the site of the original Battle Mountain Sanitarium as a National Historic Landmark.

Vidal Davila, Superintendent, Wind Cave National Park, presented the plaque on behalf of the National Park Service. Judy Johnson-Mekota, Deputy Director of the VA Midwest Health Care Network and Bill Baker, Acting Associate Director/Chief, Facilities Management of the VA Black Hills Health Care System accepted the award. Special recognition was given to Patrick Lyke, Historic Preservation Officer of the Hot Springs VAMC for his contributions and dedication to preserving the history of the facility.

The Battle Mountain Sanitarium was one of eleven veteran's homes established by Congress between 1865 and 1930 to care for the nation's growing number of volunteer soldiers. On May 29, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the bill establishing the Battle Mountain Sanitarium, which allocated \$150,000 be appropriated to build the facility. The citizens of Hot Springs donated the land, then valued at \$50,000. The sanitarium was not intended for use as a soldier's home, rather a short-term treatment facility for current residents who suffered from lung or respiratory problems.

Ground broke for the facility on August 13, 1903, and the main group of buildings was completed April 1, 1907. Bath houses were furnished from Mammoth Springs to all parts of the building. Two plunge baths were supplied with hot and cold water. The sanitarium was seen as potentially useful for the thousands of malaria-stricken soldiers from Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.

In 1930, all 11 national homes, including Battle Mountain Sanitarium, were transferred to the Veterans Administration, now the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

National Historic Landmarks are buildings, sites, districts, structures, and objects that have been determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be nationally significant in American history and culture. They illustrate important contributions to the nation's historical development. The evaluation process for determining designation is rigorous, and must confirm that a property possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States in history, architecture, archeology, technology and culture. In addition, it must physically retain a high degree of "integrity"—qualities of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.



JUNE IS PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

The National Center for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and its numerous partners, encourages everyone to raise awareness throughout June in honor of PTSD Awareness Month. This month-long campaign will focus on four different areas. Week one focuses on "How I Knew," and outlines the symptoms of PTSD.

The following three weeks will focus on the following issues: week two—"My Family Suffered," week three—"How Treatment Helped," and week four—"My Advice—Don't Wait."

People with PTSD are neighbors, coworkers and family. The Center has developed many resources for veterans, family members and caregivers to use. Resources include training videos, symptom checklist, PTSD Coach Mobile app, flyers and posters. Materials can be located at the following links:

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/print-materials/Materials_for_Printing.asp

http://www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd_awareness_month.asp

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/public/pages/PTSDCoach.asp>

Learn what you can do to raise awareness:

12 Ways Community Members Can Help
Watch videos dedicated to Veterans talking about how PTSD treatment turned their lives around.
Think broadly. When trauma happens, family, friends, coworkers and community are affected too.

Learn about common reactions to trauma and re-adjustment after war to life at home.

Be aware of where to get help for PTSD, including specific resources for Veterans.

Expand your understanding of how PTSD is identified (assessed) and treated.

Know that treatment for PTSD can help.

Ask if talking would help, but do not push if someone is not ready to discuss their trauma.

Realize that getting people to talk or seek help from a therapist is not always easy. Your encouragement matters.

Know the facts. More than half of US adults will experience trauma in their lifetime. About 7 out of 100 will get PTSD at some point. For Veterans and people who have been through violence and abuse the number is higher.

Connect with self-help resources, apps, and videos about PTSD.

Share handouts, brochures, or wallet cards about trauma and PTSD.

Keep informed.

PTSD



RAISE AWARENESS



Meet Veterans who have been there.

Share what you learn with someone who needs help.

Maybe that someone is you.



June 2012

Visit www.ptsd.va.gov



SOLDIERS HONORED AT ACTIVATION CEREMONY

Soldiers from Detachment 1, Company B, 935th Support Battalion, South Dakota Army National Guard, were honored at an activation ceremony Wednesday, June 6, at the Army Aviation Support Facility in Rapid City. They will deploy for a year-long tour to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 935th, of Rapid City, and its 22 assigned members have a mission to provide aviation maintenance and repair support to aircraft armament and avionics equipment, and will give this support to the 35th Combat Aviation Brigade. The unit specializes in maintenance and repair of rotary-wing aircraft to include the UH-60 Black Hawk, OH-58 Kiowa, and other U.S. Army rotary aircraft.

The unit will report to Fort Hood, Texas, to complete two months of theater-specific training prior to deployment overseas. This is the second mobilization for 935th. They deployed to Iraq in 2004-2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

The South Dakota National Guard officially marked 150 years of service to the state and nation on Jan. 27, 2012, as the birth date of the organization's 1862 formation.

To celebrate this historic event, the SDNG will hold an, open house event at Camp Rapid in Rapid City on Friday, June 8, from 11:00 am—3:00 pm (MT). Gov. Dennis Daugaard and Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, adjutant general of the SDNG will kick off the official ceremony at 11:30 am by providing historical comments.

Live music will be provided by the SDNG Army Band, and tours of the new Joint Force Headquarters Readiness Center, Barracks and Education Building and Troop Medical Clinic will be conducted.

An array of past and present military equipment, vehicles, artifacts and uniforms will be on display, as well as a number of informational kiosks highlighting the history of the SDNG.



UNACCOMPANIED VETERANS MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Black Hills National Cemetery will hold their quarterly "Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service" at the Black Hills National Cemetery (20901 Pleasant Valley Drive) on Monday, July 2, at 9:00 am (MT). This quarterly event recognizes those veterans who were interred without family present.

On average, 40 to 50 veterans are buried unaccompanied at Black Hills National Cemetery every year. There's no one reason for why veterans are buried unaccompanied. Sometimes, it's a matter of distance, health issues or weather; other times, it's just part of a slower grieving process.



WOMEN OF WAR PROJECT

The mission of Women of War, or WOW, is to educate and/or train the woman veteran who is currently homeless so she can become a competent, viable member of society. The program is intended to help her reclaim her life through integrity, dignity and hope. WOW is unique in that it provides an all female population but can, in certain circumstances, accommodate women with children.

WOW is located on the north edge of Belle Fourche, SD with shopping, a walking path along the river, a variety of churches and a recreation center with an indoor pool for year-round swimming and recreational activities. It is a small, safe and quiet town that will allow the veteran to regain stability in her life while pursuing the goal of being an independent individual. Since the facility is designed to help the women to learn life skills, the residents are required to share in household chores, participate as a volunteer, recreational planning as well as other group activities. Unlike many other programs, WOW works with the residents to develop a personal financial plan which encourages things like saving money for the purchase of a vehicle, first and last month's rent, or a reserve to keep them from falling back into homelessness.

If you currently work with or represent someone who might fit this program, please call the Women of War program at 605-723-8672 and ask to speak to a staff member or send them an email at wow@communityvisn.org or counselor@communityvisn.org.

More information can be found at their website: <http://www.womenofwarproject.com/wow.htm>

Women of War Project

Dedicated to Women Veterans and their children everywhere. We are here to ensure that no Veteran is forgotten while keeping the special needs of the woman veteran in mind.



Upcoming Events

Jun. 8—SDNG 150-Year Anniversary Open House—11:00 am to 3:00 pm (Camp Rapid)
Jun. 9—SDNG Museum Anniversary Party—10:00 am—4:00 pm (301 E. Dakota) - Pierre
Jun. 9—Marine Corps League Department of SD Convention—Pierre
Jun. 9-23—Golden Coyote Annual Training Exercise
Jun. 10-12—Dare to Dream Conference—Spearfish Holiday Inn
Jun. 13—Veterans Enrollment and Information Fair 1:00 pm—5:00 pm—Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Veterans Service Office (448 West Frontier—Eagle Butte)
Jun. 14—Flag Day
Jun. 14-17—American Legion State Convention—Watertown
Jun. 21—Rapid City Homeless Connect
Jun. 23-24—Thirty-Day Yellow Ribbon Event for the 200th EN/139th BSB—Sheraton—Sioux Falls
July 2—Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—Black Hills National Cemetery—9:00 am
July 4—Independence Day
July 11—SD Veterans Council Meeting—American Legion Post 15—Sioux Falls—10:30 am
July 21-22—Sioux Falls Air Show
Jul. 21—SD Convoy of Hope Stand Down—Rapid City
July 28-29—Thirty-Day Yellow Ribbon Event for the 189th AVN—Rapid City
Aug. 15—Veterans Job Fair—Sioux Falls VFW (3601 S. Minnesota Avenue) 10:00 am—2:00 pm
Aug. 27-29—VSO Annual Benefits School—Pierre
Aug. 27—VABHHCS Stand Down—Rapid City
Aug. 29—Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Stand Down—McLaughlin
Aug. 30—Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Stand Down—Eagle Butte
Aug. 30—Sept. 3—SD State Fair—Huron (Veterans Day—Aug. 30)
Sept. 11—Stand Down—Wagner National Guard Armory—610 E. SD HWY 46 (10:00 am—2:00 pm)
Sept. 21—Stand Down—Sioux Falls - VFW—3601 S. Minnesota Ave. (9:00 am—3:00 pm)
Sept. 25—Stand Down—Aberdeen Civic Center—203 S. Washington (2:00 pm—7:00 pm)
Sept. 25 Pierre Homeless Connect

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